

7. We approach ihee, AaNi? with
 reverential
 homage in our thoughts^ daily? 'both
 morning and
 evening;

Yaska, for the identity of *Angiras* with *Angara*, a live
 coal.; and a
 passage from the *Altar eya Brdhmana* is cited, in
 which it is said,
 "the coals became the Angirasas" (*ye'ngdrd*
dsansttfngira&o
'lhavqn). The identification of *Angiras* »with *Agni*,
 in function,
 though not in person, is the subject of a legend,
 told, rather con-
 fusedly and obscurely, in the *MaMIMrata*,
Yanfaparva (printed
 edition, Tol. i., p. 712), by *M6.rlcand.Bya* to
*YudhisMMra** in reply
 to his question, how it happened,, formerly, that
Agni, having gone
 to the forest, and his functions having ceased,
Angiras became
Agni, and conveyed the oblations to the gods.
 Connected with'
 this question, he also inquires, how it is that *Agni*,
 who is one,
 should become many. *Mdrkan&eya* therefore
 relates, that *Agn%>*
 - having engaged in penance, and relinquishing
 his duties, the
*Muni Angira** took upon him his office, and, when
 he prevailed
 upon *Agni* to resume it, became his son: his
 descendants, the
 ^ are, therefore, also the descendants of *Agni*, or so
 many
iS) or fires. Their enumeration, which follows at
 some length,
 shows them to be, for the most part,
 personifications of light;- of
 luminous bodies, of divisions of time, of celestial
 phenomena, and
 fires adapted to peculiar occasions, as the full and
 cchange of the
 moon, or to particular rites, as *lhQA\$wam'edha*,
Edjasity^ the *P&ka-*

yajnas (or sacrifices with food), obsequial and funeral, fires, expiatory fires, and the like. The legend is, possibly, intended to represent the organization of worship with fire,—which, in the first instance, was of a primitive and simple character,—and its appropriation to various occasions, by *Angiras* and his disciples. The *MahdMrata* is not contented, with the first account, but gives a second, in which the first *Agni* is called *Saha* ; and he is said to have hidden himself in the ocean, to avoid the approach of *Niyata*, the son of *Bharata** the fire of the funeral-pile. The text says,